

~~TOP SECRET DAUNT~~

BRIDE

From: WASHINGTON

To: MOSCOW

No. 1724

24 July 1943

No.34 HARDY's [GARDI][a] information. From personal observation.

The air base in HOMESTEAD near MIAMI is sending to Africa for the U.S.A.A.F. bombers of the B25 type which have mounted in the nose section of the fuselage a 75mm cannon[b] the escort type of bomber not an order is coming in for naval aircraft armament [7 digits unrecovered] submarines and small [18 digits unrecovered] craft.

VANO[c] gave [us] a technical manual [and] characterization of the cannon Mark aircraft cannon M4 [2 groups unrecovered] weight 69.3 pounds, barrel length 37.5 caliber[, ] initial speed of shell 1970 ft./sec.[, ] max. pressure of powder gases 38,000 pounds/square inch. Ammunition. Armorpiercing [9 digits unrecovered]. Cap [10 digits unrecovered] 19.96 pounds, weight of the explosive charge 0.17 pound[, ] weight [14 digits unrecovered] cartridge 19.9...

[87 groups unrecoverable]

[a] GARDI: Unidentified cover name.

[b] From this point it is difficult to see how the different elements of the text cohere. "Escort type" is nominative or accusative, and we might expect to have a period after "cannon" and to understand "for" before "escort", but "for" occurs before "naval aircraft armament". Again, "submarines" and "craft" are in the instrument case (implying a "with" before them?), but there hardly seems room to make any reasonable transition from "aircraft armament" to "submarines" etc.

[c] VANO: Unidentified cover name.

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